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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Rule 71.1)

To: MIURA, Kuno		Date of mailing (day/month/year) 13.12.2005	
Nishiwaki Building 4F, 1-4, Kojimachi 4-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 1020083 Japan		IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION	
Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT-1240			
International application No. PCT/JP2004/010539	International filing date (day/month/year) 16.07.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 29.07.2003	
Applicant PENTAX Corporation			

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary report on patentability and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and Industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Japan Patent Office 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Authorized officer Commissioner of the Patent Office Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3290	2 Q	9 3 0 9
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ATTENTIONS **IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 JAN 2006****1. Demand for copy of documents**

Copy of the documents described in the international preliminary examination report and not described in the international search report.

An applicant can request the copy of these cited documents to the Japan Patent Office, however, National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (Japan Patent Office building 2nd floor) handles inspection and copying of official gazettes and copying of other document etc.

[Contact and Reference]

National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training

〒100-0013

3-4-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku Tokyo

(Japan Patent Office building 2nd floor)

(Official gazettes) Industrial Property Information Reference Department

TEL: 03-3581-1101 Ext. 3811,3812

(Others) Industrial Property Reference Materials Department

TEL: 03-3581-1101 Ext. 3831,3832,3833

Japan Patent Information Organization also services sales of the copy of these cited documents. Those who request copying of the cited documents should pay attention to the following points.

[Application Method]

(1) As for Patent (Utility Model, Design) Gazette, the following points shall be defined clearly.

- ☐ Types of patent, utility model, and design
- ☐ Fiscal year and number of publication of application or publication of unexamined application (or patent number, registration number)
- ☐ Necessary number of paper sheets

(2) As for documents except for the gazette, the following points are required attention.

- ☐ Be sure to attach the copy of the international preliminary examination report (which shall be returned).

[Application and Reference]

〒135-0016

4-1-7 Toyo Koto-ku, Tokyo

Sato Daiya Building

Foundation of Japan Patent Information Organization

Information Processing Department

Copy Service section

TEL: 03-3508-2313

Note) The period for requesting the copy of the documents to Japanese Patent Office is set to 7 years from the international application date.

2. It is necessary to submit the copy of international application (except for cases of already transmitted from the International Bureau) and its prescribed translation, and to pay the national fee. Respective countries set different periods so as to be required attention. (See Treaty Article 22, Article 39, and Article 64 (2) (a) (i))

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CLAIMS

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1. An internal treatment apparatus for a patient comprising a flexible tubular body to be introduced into a patient, said flexible tubular body comprising:

a center opening for inserting therethrough an endoscope for observing a target site, said center opening extending through said flexible tubular body from a center of a distal end face of said flexible tubular body, said distal end face facing said target site, and

a plurality of circumferential apertures through which surgical instruments are inserted for performing a surgical procedure on said target site, said plurality of circumferential apertures being provided to extend through said flexible tubular body from a side face of said flexible tubular body.

2. An internal treatment system for a patient comprising:

a flexible tubular body to be introduced into a patient, said flexible tubular body including a center opening for inserting therethrough an endoscope for observing a target site, said center opening being circular in cross section and extending through said flexible tubular body from a center of a distal end face of said flexible tubular body, said distal end face facing said target site, and a plurality of

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circumferential apertures through which surgical instruments are inserted for performing a surgical procedure on said target site, said plurality of circumferential apertures being provided to extend through said flexible tubular body from a side face of said flexible tubular body;

a body manipulating device for manipulating said flexible tubular body from outside said patient;

an endoscope manipulating device for manipulating said endoscope from outside said patient; and

a surgical instrument manipulating device for manipulating said surgical instruments from outside said patient.

3. An internal treatment apparatus for a patient comprising a flexible tubular body to be introduced into a patient, said flexible tubular body comprising:

a center opening for inserting therethrough an endoscope for observing a target site, said center opening extending through said flexible tubular body from a center of a distal end face of said flexible tubular body, said distal end face facing said target site, and

a plurality of circumferential apertures through which surgical instruments are inserted for performing a surgical procedure on said target site, each of said plurality of circumferential apertures being provided to extend through said flexible tubular body in an area including said distal

end face and a side face of said flexible tubular body.

4. An internal treatment system for a patient comprising:

a flexible tubular body to be introduced into a patient,
5 said flexible tubular body including a center opening for
inserting therethrough an endoscope for observing a target
site, said center opening being circular in cross section and
extending through said flexible tubular body from a center of
a distal end face of said flexible tubular body, said distal
10 end face facing said target site, and a plurality of
circumferential apertures through which surgical instruments
are inserted for performing a surgical procedure on said
target site, each of said plurality of circumferential
apertures being provided to extend through said flexible
15 tubular body in an area including said distal end face and a
side face of said flexible tubular body;

a body manipulating device for manipulating said
flexible tubular body from outside said patient;

an endoscope manipulating device for manipulating said
20 endoscope from outside said patient; and

a surgical instrument manipulating device for
manipulating said surgical instruments from outside said
patient.

5. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient
25 according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said endoscope is a

stereoscopic endoscope allowing an operator to stereoscopically observe the target site.

6. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein

5 said surgical instrument comprises a monitor device allowing an operator to observe a vicinity of a distal end of said surgical instrument.

7. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 6, wherein

10 said surgical instrument comprises an illumination device which allows an operator to illuminate a vicinity of said distal end of said surgical instrument with light.

8. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 7, wherein said surgical instrument
15 comprises at least one of an air feed device and a water feed device which allows an operator to clean a distal end of said monitor device.

9. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, further comprising an image
20 displaying device for displaying an image formed by said endoscope.

10. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said flexible tubular body comprises a resiliently deflectable portion.

25 11. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient

according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said surgical instrument comprises a resiliently deflectable portion.

12. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said flexible tubular body comprises grooves provided between each adjacent said circumferential apertures.

13. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein a projection angle of said surgical instruments from said flexible tubular body is smaller than a half angle of a field-of-view of said endoscope.

14. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said endoscope comprises an illumination device which emits white light, and said surgical instruments each comprises an illumination device which emits colored light.

15. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 14, wherein each said illumination device of said surgical instruments continuously emits colored light.

16. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 14, wherein each said illumination device of said surgical instruments emits colored light intermittently.

17. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said endoscope comprises

an illumination device, and said surgical instruments each comprises an illumination device which emits light having light intensity different from that of light emitted from said illumination device of said endoscope.

5 18. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein

said endoscope is a stereoscopic endoscope allowing an operator to stereoscopically observe the target site.

10 19. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein

said surgical instrument comprises a monitor device which allows an operator to observe a vicinity of a distal end of said surgical instrument.

15 20. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 19, wherein

said surgical instrument comprises an illumination device which allows an operator to illuminate a vicinity of said distal end of said surgical instrument with light.

20 21. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 20, wherein

said surgical instrument comprises at least one of an air feed device and a water feed device which allows an operator to clean a distal end of said monitor means.

25 22. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, further comprising an image

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displaying device for displaying an image provided by said endoscope.

23. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein

5 said flexible tubular body comprises a resiliently deflectable portion.

24. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein

10 said surgical instrument comprises a resiliently deflectable portion.

25. The internal treatment system for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein said flexible tubular body comprises grooves provided between each adjacent said circumferential apertures.

15 26. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein a projection angle of said surgical instruments from said flexible tubular body is smaller than a half angle of a field-of-view of said endoscope.

20 27. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein said endoscope comprises an illumination device which emits white light, and said surgical instruments each comprises an illumination device which emits colored light.

25 28. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient

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according to claim 27, wherein each said illumination device of said surgical instruments continuously emits colored light.

29. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 27, wherein each said illumination device
5 of said surgical instruments emits colored light intermittently.

30. The internal treatment apparatus for a patient according to claim 2 or 4, wherein said endoscope comprises an illumination device, and said surgical instruments each
10 comprises an illumination device which emits light having light intensity different from that of light emitted from said illumination device of said endoscope.